

	<p><b>IDEM Permit Guide:</b>  <b>Yard Waste Composting Facility Registrations</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.IN.gov/idem/guides/permit/waste/yardwaste.html">www.IN.gov/idem/guides/permit/waste/yardwaste.html</a></p>
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### **Who May Wish to Use a Registered Yard Waste Composting Facility**

Because of the Yard Waste Disposal Ban under Indiana Code, IC 13-20-9 vegetative material (leaves, brush, and woody vegetative matter more than 3 feet in length) from landscaping and land clearing projects no longer may be taken to a solid waste landfill. As a result, persons wishing to dispose of such banned vegetative material are encouraged to take it to a nearby [Registered Yard Waste Composting Facility](#). Or such persons may wish to [compost the waste themselves](#), and may determine from the information listed below whether they are exempt from first registering with IDEM.

### **Who May Need a Registration for a Yard Waste Composting Facility**

According to [IC 13-20-10](#), all owners or operators of a composting facility for vegetative matter must register with IDEM. Composting is the biological treatment process by which microorganisms decompose the organic component of vegetative matter (such as yard or landscaping waste, including leaves, grass brush, limbs, and branches).

### **Those activities which are exempt from Yard Waste Composting Facility Registration requirements include:**

- 1) Conducting a composting operation at one's residence or farm for vegetative matter and other types of organic material that are generated by their activities and stored, treated, or disposed of at their residence or farm.
- 2) A composting operation that processes less than two thousand (2,000) pounds of vegetative matter during a year.
- 3) The temporary storage of vegetative matter where only an incidental amount of composting will occur.

### **Some of the things an applicant must do to comply with IDEM's Yard Waste Program include (but are not limited to):**

- < Submit an application for registration to IDEM,
- < Provide a detailed location and description of the site, including an outline of the composting operation boundaries clearly delineated on a topographic map,
- < Estimate the end use of composted materials and the annual volume of materials

- that will be processed by the facility,
- < Implement compost management procedures, including controls for dust, odors, and noise,
- < Properly store and dispose of any materials received that are unsuitable for composting,
- < Provide adequate controls to prevent groundwater or surface water contamination from leachate and runoff,
- < Submit an annual report to IDEM that indicates the volume of material processed by the composting facility during the previous year and the final disposition of the composted materials

### **What to Expect**

There is no charge for registration and no time limit within which IDEM must process registration applications. However, applications are usually processed in less than one week and registrations must be renewed every 5 years.

### **For Additional Information**

To learn more about IDEM's Yard Waste Composting Facility Program, to get a copy of [Guidance for the Design and Operation of Yard Waste Composting Facilities](#) or to obtain a registration application contact Debbie Baker at 317/232-0066.

Information on how composting works is also available through the Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance Website at:  
<http://www.state.in.us/idem/oppta/recycling/mulch.pdf>

### **Disclaimer**

This permit guide is intended to provide background information which should be useful in planning for a particular project that may require an environmental permit. It does not substitute for consultation with the appropriate regulatory agency and/or the appropriate rules or statute.